(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Consumption, production and supply of fertilizers

†99. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI. Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the per year average consumption of fertilizers in the country;

(b) whether Urea, Diphosphatic fertilizers are being produced in the country upto consumption level; if not, the manner in which Government are meeting the demand;

(c) the quantity of fertilizer imported to fulfil the requirement; and the amount of foreign exchange spent on the import of fertilizers during the last two years;

(d) the steps being taken by Government to strike a balance in the consumption, production and supply of fertilizers; and

(e) whether the subsidy on fertilizers is likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN): (a) Year-wise per hectare average consumption of fertilizers in nutrient terms (NPK) for the last three years is as follows:—

year	consumption (kg/ha)
2001-02	91.49
2002-03	84.82
2003-04	92.10

(b) The country is nearly self-sufficient in meeting the requirement of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers, namely Urea, DAP and NPK complexes. Whenever there is a gap in demand-supply situation of urea, the Government imports urea through State Trading Enterprises (STEs). As regards DAP, being a de-controlled and de-canalized fertilizer, its import depends on prevailing international prices and the domestic market demand-supply situation in the country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The quantity of major fertilizers imported during the last two years is as below:—

Quantity imported (lakh MT)

Year	DAP	MOP
2002-03	3.83	26.3
2003-04	7.34	25.8

As DAP and MOP are decontrolled fertilizers, and their imports are made on private account by importers, details pertaining to amount of foreign exchange spent by various importers in the import of these fertilizers are not available with Government.

(d) The Government has been pursuing policies which are conducive for encouraging investment in fertilizer sector so as to achieve self-sufficiency in meeting the indigenous requirement of major fertilizers. In case of urea, the Government has recently announced the pricing policy for investment to be made in (a) new and expansion projects of urea; and (b) existing non-gas based urea units converting to natural gas/LNG for feedstock/fuel. In order to augment indigenous availability of urea, IFFCO and KRIBHCO the multi-state cooperative societies, are setting up a joint venture in Sur, Oman with Oman Oil Company and the entire production of 16.52 lakh MT of urea will be bought by the Government. On the other hand, installed capacity (54.20 lakh MT in nutrient terms) of phosphatic fertilizers is sufficient enough to meet the current level of requirement (average consumption of 46-47 lakh MT of last three years). As regards MOP, the country is dependent on total imports in the absence of any exploitable reserves of potash in the country.

(e) Selling prices of fertilizers have not been increased since 28.2.2002. However, there has been increase in subsidy/concession outgo on fertilizers due to increase in the cost of raw materials/inputs used in the manufacture of fertilizers.

Revitalisation of sugar industry

100. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state: